

**MINUTES**  
**LAURENS COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**JANUARY 28, 2014 – 5:30 P.M.**  
**HISTORIC COURTHOUSE – COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - PUBLIC SQUARE**

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**ATTENDANCE:** **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT** - County Council Chairman Jim Coleman and Vice Chairman Edward McDaniel; Council Members, Diane Anderson, David Pitts, Keith Tollison and Joe Wood.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT** – Councilman Ted Nash (due to road conditions from winter snow storm).

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:** Laurens County Administrator, Ernest Segars; Laurens County Clerk to Council, Betty C. Walsh and Sandy Cruickshanks, Laurens County Attorney.

**ATTENDING - LAURENS COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEADS:** Laurens County Public Works Director, Scott Holland.

**PRESS:** The *Laurens County Advertiser*, Corey Engle; *The Clinton Chronicle*, Vic MacDonald, and Iva Cadmus, WLBG-Radio.

**SCHEDULED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS** – (1) Approval of Agenda, January 28, 2014; (2) Approval of Minutes from the January 14, 2014 Regular Session; (3.) First Reading, Laurens County Ordinance #761 – “Authorizing the Conversion of an Existing Fee In Lieu Of Tax Arrangement Between Laurens County and Fisher Barton Into a Simplified Fee Type of Fee In Lieu Of Tax Arrangement For the Property Subject to The Original Fee In Lieu of Tax”; (4.) First Reading, Laurens County Ordinance #762 – An Ordinance which will authorize the execution and delivery of an amended Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement by Laurens County with an existing Fountain Inn Industry; (5) First Reading, Laurens County Ordinance #763 – An Ordinance which will amend an existing Multi County Park Agreement with an existing Fountain Inn Industry; (6) First Reading, Laurens County Ordinance #764 – “An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance #751 For the Transfer And Conveyance of All Public Alleys and Alleyways To the Laurens Commission of Public Works”; (7) Requested Resolution - “A Resolution in Support of Transportation Options For the State of South Carolina” – Mr. Phil Astwood, Carolinas Association For Passenger Trains; (8) Administrative Report – Ernie Segars, County Administrator; (9) Public Comment; (10) Comments from Council Members; (8) Adjournment.

**MEETING NOTIFICATION** - The County Council Members, Press and requested public notifications were informed of the meeting in a timely and appropriate manner.

**CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Coleman called the January 28, 2014 regular scheduled meeting of Council to order at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Laurens County Historic Courthouse.

Chairman Coleman offered an invitation to stand for the invocation and for the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was delivered by Chairman Coleman. Councilman Nash was scheduled to provide the invocation but was unable to attend due to road conditions from the winter snow storm.

**APPROVAL – AGENDA – JANUARY 28, 2014** – Upon a MOTION from VICE CHAIRMAN MCDANIEL and a SECOND from COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON. The requested Resolution for “Passenger Trains” was postponed until the February 11, 2014 meeting of Council. The agenda was approved without any additions and inclusive of the one deletion; VOTE 6-0.

**APPROVAL – MINUTES – JANUARY 14, 2014 – REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL** – Upon a MOTION from COUNCILMAN TOLLISON and a SECOND from COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON, the minutes from the January 14, 2014 meeting was approved as presented; VOTE 6-0.



**FIRST READING – ORDINANCE #761 – “AUTHORIZING THE CONVERSION OF AN EXISTING FEE IN LIEU OF TAX ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN LAURENS COUNTY AND FISCHER BARTON INTO A SIMPLIFIED FEE TYPE OF FEE IN LIEU OF TAX ARRANGEMENT FOR THE PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE ORIGINAL FEE IN LIEU OF TAX”** – In review, County Attorney Cruickshanks said, “Fisher Barton has requested to modify their existing Fee In Lieu Of Tax Arrangement due to some confusion as to whether they had met their investment goals. It has been determined that although there may have been a technical shortage during one period, the overall investments of the company have exceeded their investment commitments. Mr. Jim Price, their representing Attorney is not in attendance due to weather but will schedule to attend the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Public Hearing and Second Reading”.

COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON made the MOTION to approve Ordinance #761 upon first reading as presented, with COUNCILMAN PITTS SECONDING; VOTE 6-0.

**COLLECTIVELY REVIEWED (BY ATTORNEY CRUICKSHANKS), ORDINANCES #762 (A below) AND #763 (B below):**

- A.) **FIRST READING - ORDINANCE #762 – “AN ORDINANCE WHICH WILL AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AMENDED FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BY LAURENS COUNTY WITH AN EXISTING FOUNTAIN INN INDUSTRY”;**
- B.) **FIRST READING – ORDINANCE #763 – “AN ORDINANCE WHICH WILL AMEND AN EXISTING MULTI COUNTY PARK AGREEMENT WITH AN EXISTING FOUNTAIN INN INDUSTRY”** – Attorney Cruickshanks said, “This industry is actually Flame Spray and due to documents not being received earlier the name was omitted. Both of these Ordinances #762 and #763 are follow-ups to the Resolution adopted by Council in December of 2013 regarding the new investment of 9.2 million dollars. In addition, while reviewing the documents, a part of the property that is included in the Multi County Park Agreement, the parcel number had been left out. This will correct and amend all documents”.

COUNCILMAN TOLLISON made the MOTION to approve Ordinances #762 and #763 as presented with COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON SECONDING; VOTE 6-0.

**FIRST READING – ORDINANCE #764 – “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #751 FOR THE TRANSFER AND CONVEYANCE OF ALL PUBLIC ALLEYS AND ALLEYWAYS TO THE LAURENS COMMISSION OF PUBLIC WORKS”** – Attorney Cruickshanks stated that this ordinance involves one (1) alleyway that was omitted from the actual deed that occurred in the 1948 transfer to the County but, was transferred by a separate deed in 1949. Thus the previous Ordinance #751 only included the 1948 transactions. To keep the recordings in order, this amending Ordinance #764 will include this one alleyway.

COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON made the MOTION to approve Ordinance #764 as submitted with COUNCILMAN PITTS SECONDING; VOTE 6-0.

**REQUESTED RESOLUTION – “A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA”** – Due to weather conditions and hazardous travel conditions, Mr. Phil Astwood, representing the Carolinas Association For Passenger Trains, was not in attendance therefore requiring this portion of the agenda to be postponed until the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of Council.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – ERNIE SEGARS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** - Administrator Segars reported: 1.) of two (2) upcoming agency dinner meetings; 2.) advised Council of the warming centers that have been set up to accommodate those in need during the inclement weather; and, 3.) the County EMS has opened up the Trinity Ridge Station to accommodate calls during the bad weather.

Councilman Tollison asked for an update on the Ekom Fire Department. Administrator Segars replied that documents had been signed last Thursday.

Councilman Tollison asked for an update on the Hillcrest expansion for Administrative Offices. Public Works Director Scott Holland stated that Mr. Dennis Ashley is still working on finalizing the overall plans and that copies should be in hand by next week.

Councilman Tollison asked if all departments were included with this expansion had been advised of how the plan is looking. Public Works Director Scott Holland replied that all had and that some changes had been made due to their involvement.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Chairman Coleman opened the floor for public comments at 5:45 P.M. Having no one present wishing to address Council, Chairman Coleman closed the session at 5:46 P.M.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Chairman Coleman noted the handouts from Mr. Jones regarding the previous meetings request to support a Resolution and asked for Council to review.

Councilman Tollison thanked all that attended and asked all to drive home safely.

Councilman Pitts wished to publicly congratulate Administrator Segars towards the recent “Service Award” presented to him at the recent Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

Chairman Coleman noted the upcoming Laurens County Development Corporation Annual Luncheon on February 20, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. at Musgrove Mill.

Chairman Coleman asked for Council to be sure to read the last Friday Report from the South Carolina Association of Counties that involves the discussions of the State Local Government Funds.

There was a COUNCIL CONSENSUS to write a letter to the County Legislative Delegation to reinstate the funding as had been in years past.

**ADJOURNMENT** – With no further business, Chairman Coleman adjourned the meeting of Council at 5:50 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Betty C. Walsh

Laurens County Clerk to Council